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WHITNEY PIER
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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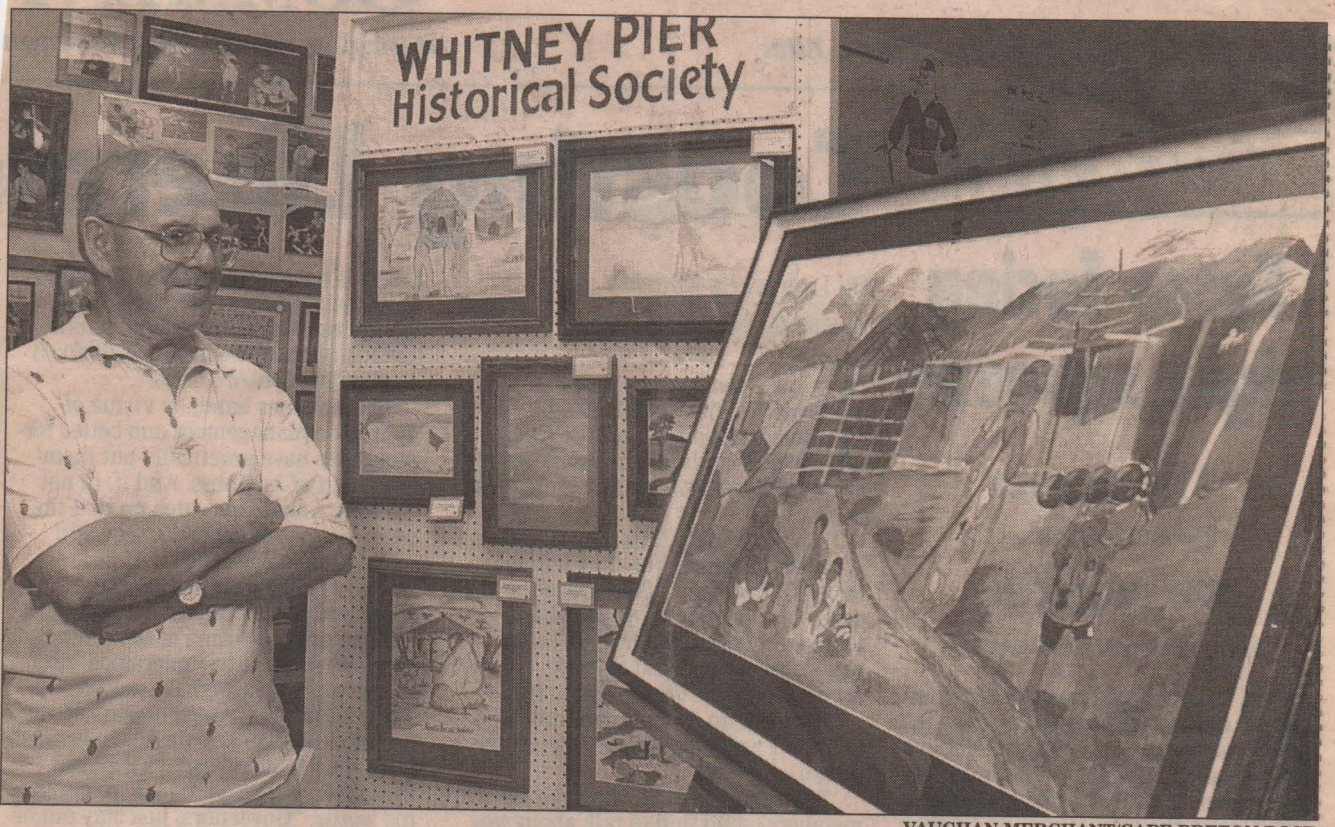
WHITNEY PIER
HISTORICAL
MUSEUM
88 Mount Pleasant Street

Aug. 30/1999



VAUGHAN MERCHANT/CAPE BRETON POST

Simon Gillis of Whitney Pier admires some of the 40 pieces of art work of students aged 9-15 from East Africa which are in the travelling exhibit Afstart now on display at the Whitney Pier Historical Society.

Whitney Pier group hosts art from East Africa

BY JOHN CAMPBELL

CAPE BRETON POST

The Whitney Pier Historical Society is building on the success of last year's Pierscapes arts festival with a display of children's art from East Africa.

Afstart, a collection of 41 pieces of artwork by students from Nairobi in Kenya, opened its first Nova Scotia stand Monday and continues until Sept. 17, said society president Sandra Dunn.

Dunn said she heard of the travelling collection in the spring and thought it would be a nice fit for the Whitney Pier area, given its strong Afro-Canadian community and growing interest in the visual arts.

"There's a lot of art going on here thanks to the interest encouraged by the festival last year," said Dunn, citing instruction being done by Bernard Gillis at the boys and girls club as one example.

"Hopefully before long if we can get a handle on Jamieson School for a community building like the Southend Centre we'll have an art gallery there," said Dunn.

There's no cost to the Pier museum other than the price of one-way shipping and the arrangement includes supplies of hasti-notes and greeting cards that can be sold by the museum.

Meanwhile the Afstart exhibit opened officially Wednesday for its five-week run (Monday through Saturday 9-5) and Dunn reported the initial response as "enthusiastic."

She already has her own favourite among the paintings by students aged from nine to 15 and thinks local children will be impressed not only by the artwork but by the purpose of the exhibit, a way of helping East African schools by raising funds to buy books and other equipment.

After being displayed at museums, schools, galleries and libraries for two years under the aegis of the Restigouche Regional Museum in Dalhousie, N.B., the pictures will be auctioned and the profits divided between the organizing museum and the participating African schools.

A brochure accompanying the exhibit explains that while it's difficult to predict how much the pictures will bring at auction, the Restigouche museum has already guaranteed $5 for each picture, money that will be used to buy books, lab equipment or anything else needed by the schools in Africa.

The brochure points out that $5 will cover the cost of 25 books sold to the schools by the Kenya Book Foundation for less than 20 cents Canadian per book.

Besides the Restigouche museum, the Kenya Foundation and the Canadian Organization for Development, the project has the approval or active support of a number of organizations, including Rotary clubs.

COMMENT

Publisher/General Manager *Milton Ellis*

Managing Editor *Fred Jackson*

Our VIEW

Sysco facing tight squeeze

The issue:

The summit is set.

We suggest:

Some firm answers needed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINISTER Gordon Balser is new to the job so he has yet to learn — though he will quickly — that ministerial utterances on Sysco are parsed hereabouts with the intensity of an English literature graduate student combing the sonnets of Shakespeare for hints that the Dark Lady was really a man.

"If it can't be sold and it cannot be run at a profit then it should be shut down," Balser declared Thursday, no doubt expressing what he thought to be the new government's position on Sydney Steel.

You'll recall that back in March, when future premier John Hamm broke the longstanding political consensus on Sysco, the new Conservative position consisted of one option: Hamm called on the government to close the Sydney steel plant. Shortly, within days, that became two options: Close it if it can't be sold within an unspecified few months, but put no more government money into it in the meantime.

On Thursday, Balser's words seemed to hint at the third option — run it, somehow, if that could be done at a profit. But it would be unwise to read anything into this. All indications are that the Hamm Conservatives are determined to get out of Sydney Steel, sooner rather than later. Everything hinges on the government's reading of the prospects for selling the plant cleanly, and soon.

Coasting Liberal

BY LAWRENCE MARTIN
SOUTHAM NEWSPAPERS
HALIFAX

IN THE WEEK THAT THEY BURIED JEAN Drapeau, the Cecil B. DeMille of Canadian politicians, the federal Liberals gathered in Halifax to try to find something to put on their road map.

The governing Grits don't take kindly to being labelled the Couch Potato Party. But, as they filed toward the posh sofas of the Westin Hotel and plunked themselves down on them, you'd swear you could hear the old children's refrain in the background.

"One potato, two potato, three potato, four. Five potato, six potato, seven potato — more!"

The most pressing thing the party members could find to talk about was what to do an estimated six months from now with an estimated federal budget surplus.

One couch potato who declined to be identified agreed with a suggestion that the government could take the six months off and probably nobody would notice.

It is both a happy and an unhappy circumstance. On the one hand, the Liberals have mastered the Canadian universe: a commanding lead in the polls, a reasonably contented public and (aside from the usual peach fuzz) no pressing controversies.

On the other hand, by virtue of their good management and better fortune, they have practically put themselves out of business. And if, in not too long, Canadians catch on that the party has not much to do, they will likely turn to Joe Who.

Pierre Pettigrew, the recently appointed trade minister, defended all the imagined yawning at the cabinet table. What must be understood, said Pettigrew, is that we have moved beyond the era of governments of the grandiose DeMille scale. The message from the people nowadays is not to meddle much, he said — as in, not in his words, "Governors, just stay out of the way, till we send in Doctor K."

Much of the debate here was on whether tax cuts or a new children's agenda should get the budget priority. The outcome will likely be a great Grit saw-off. Half here, half there, hug the political centre or you don't go anywhere.

In the past, budget talk was a one-month, February preoccupation. Now

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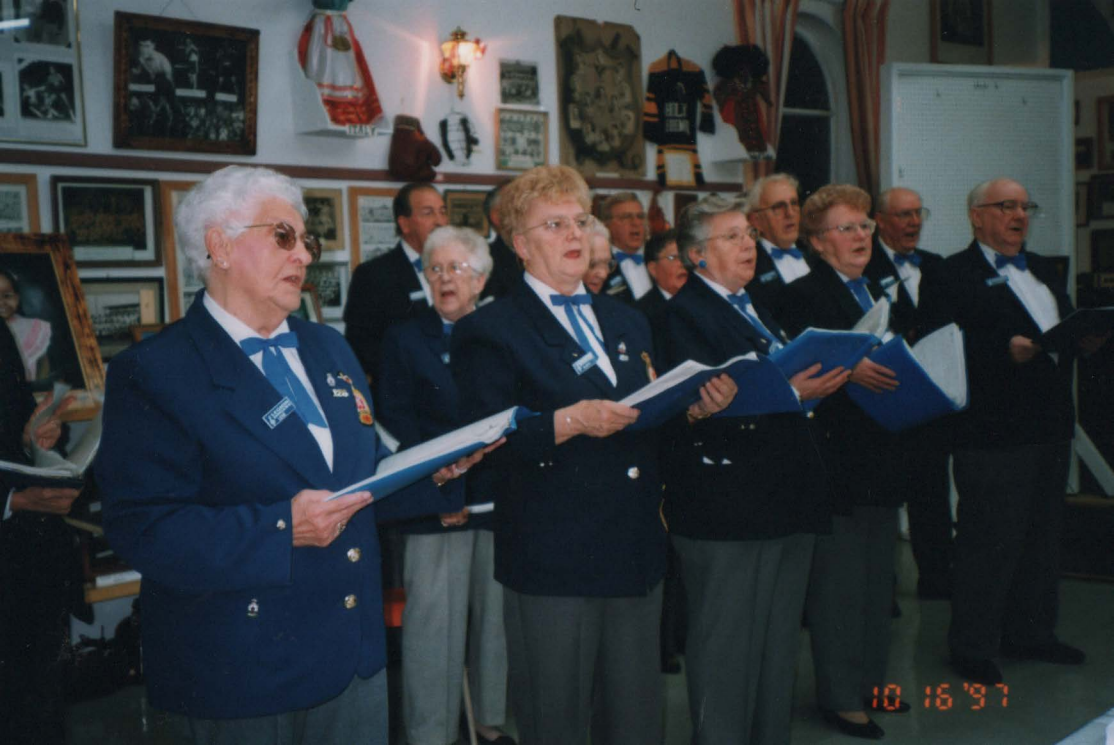
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Home-cooked meals
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180g
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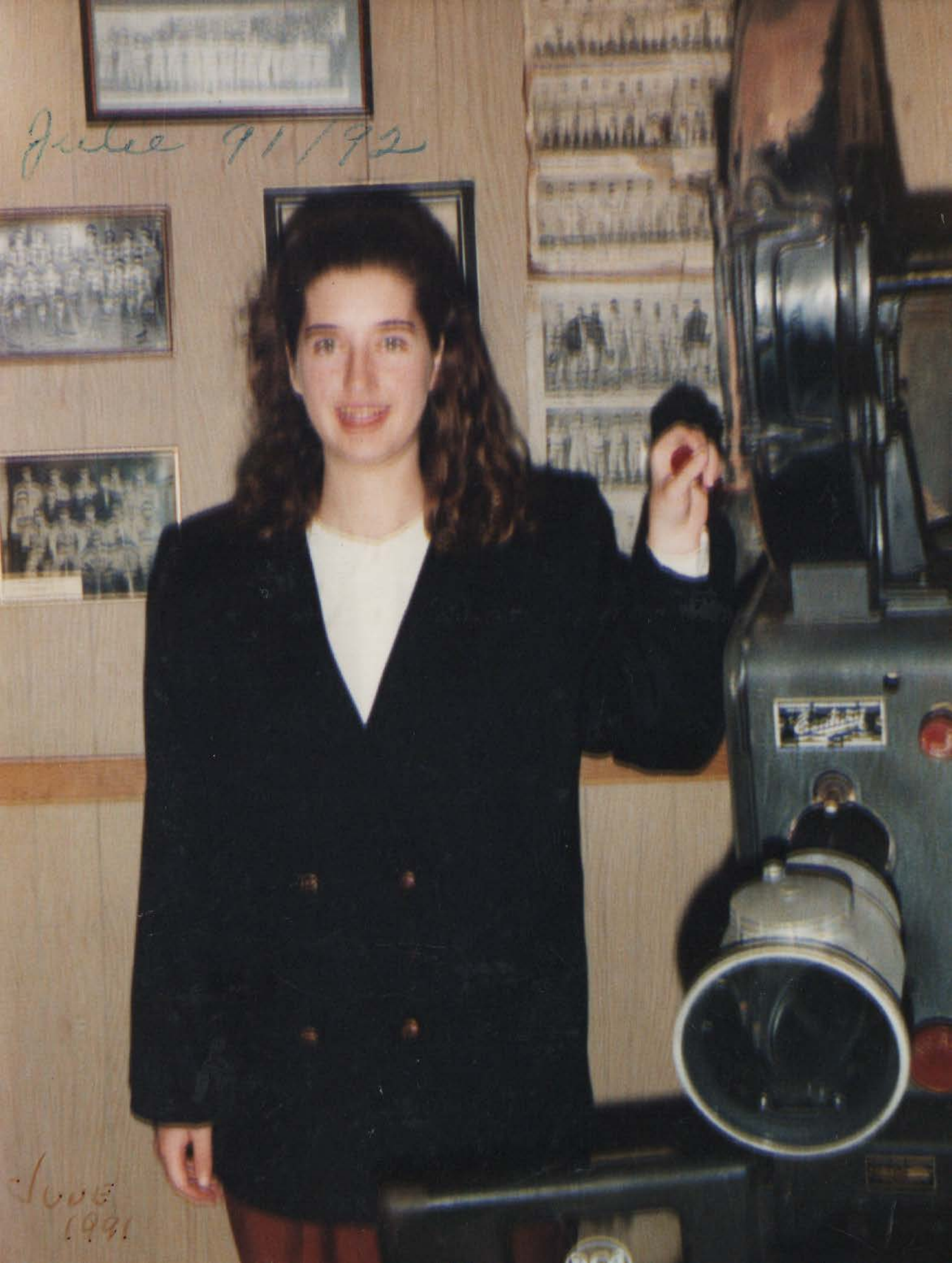
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Holy Redeemer Parish Centre

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TICKETS
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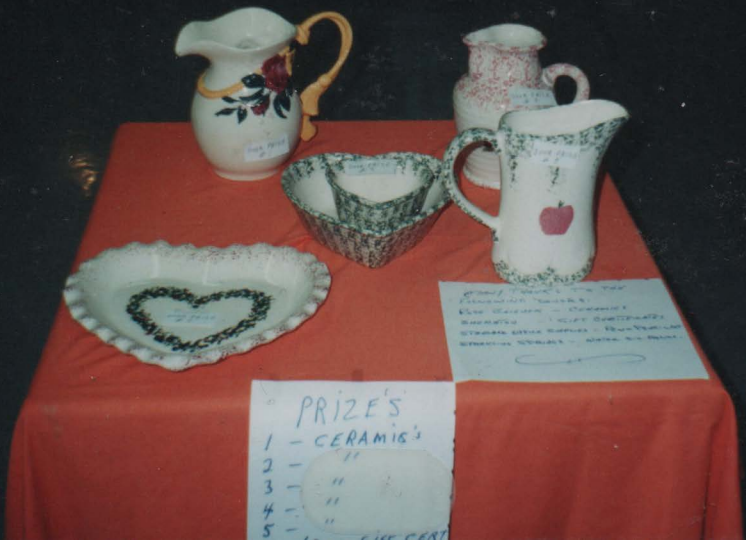
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POTATOES

Left to Right:
Margaret Roberts
Thema Murphy
Rev. Stan MacDonald
Sandra dunn

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Roku!
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& Happy
New Year
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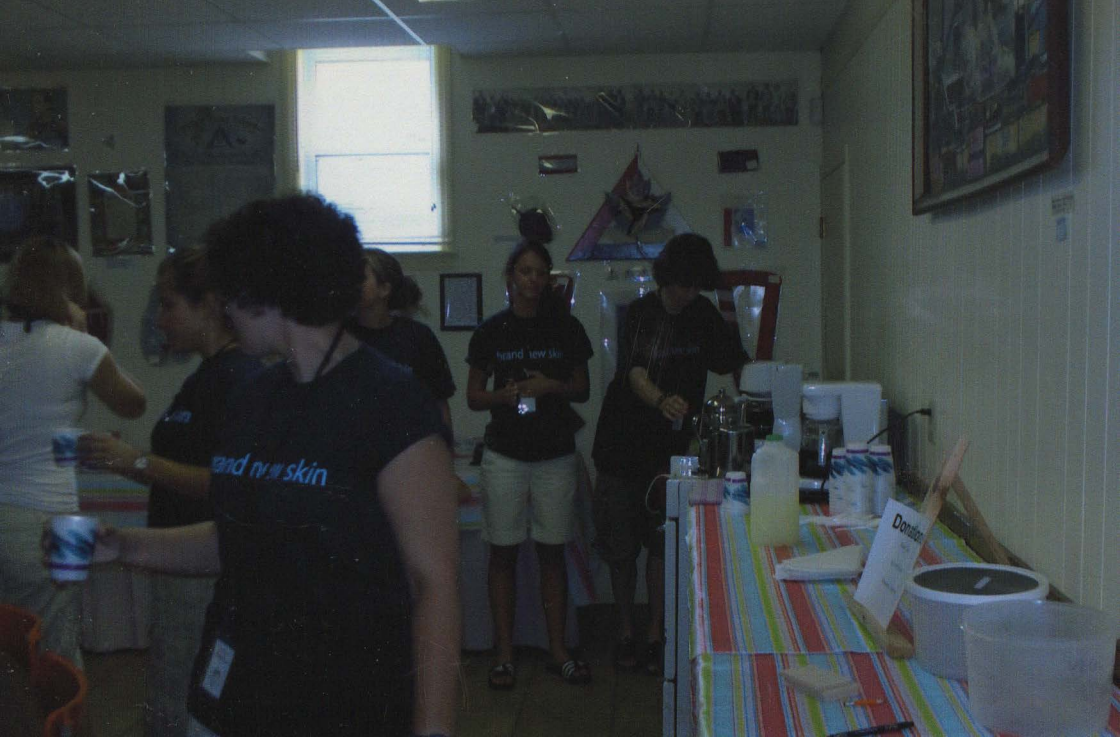
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DR. GARSON LECKER
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Feb 11, 1982